

Lead Scientist's Report

Summary: This report informs the Council of recent changes in the Lead Scientist's schedule, highlights the upcoming two-phase scientific review of the Effects Analysis for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), introduces a proposal for a new class of Delta Science Fellows, and provides information on the State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference that will be held September 20-21, 2011 in Oakland, California.

Changes in the Lead Scientist's Schedule

After three years of serving as the Delta Stewardship Council's Lead Scientist, Dr. Cliff Dahm has resumed his duties as a full-time professor at his home institution, the University of New Mexico. Dr. Dahm's last official day in the Delta Stewardship Council's office was Friday, August 19. Dr. Dahm, however, will continue to support the Council's science efforts approximately four days a month during the Council's Lead Scientist recruitment period and the transition to new science leadership.

Independent Science Panel Review of the BDCP Effects Analysis

The Delta Science Program was asked by the BDCP planning agencies and participants to coordinate an independent scientific review of the BDCP Effects Analysis chapter and associated appendices. The review will have two phases. The first phase will start in September 2011 and will review the Conceptual Foundation and Analytical Framework for the Effects Analysis. This document describes the methods to be used for the analysis and will be reviewed along with an example application of the framework, the fish entrainment technical appendix. The second phase of the review will occur in March or April 2012 and will review BDCP chapter 5, which describes the overall effects analysis, along with the remaining technical appendices. For more information about the BDCP Effects Analysis please visit:

<http://baydeltaconservationplan.com/Home.aspx>

Proposal for a New Class of Delta Science Fellows

The Delta Science Program, in coordination with California Sea Grant, is preparing a proposal for a new class of Delta Science Fellows with the major subject areas of the Delta Plan as the focused research topic areas: 1) water supply reliability for California, 2) Delta ecosystem restoration, 3) water quality to protect human health and the environment, 4) reducing flood risk to people, property and state interests, and 5) Delta as an evolving place. The proposal will be brought before the Council at a future meeting.

State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference

The State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference provides a biennial assessment of the ecological health of the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. This year's conference will be held September 20-21, 2011 in Oakland, California. Plenary sessions will be held each morning of the conference. Tuesday's plenary session (September 20) is titled, "The State of the Bay: Indicators of Bay Health and What They Tell Us—Findings from the Newly-Released State of the San Francisco Bay Report". Wednesday's plenary (September 21), "Doing More with Less; Moving Toward Long-term Sustainable Use of Delta and Bay Water" includes a talk by Chair Isenberg: "Achieving the Delta Plan's Coequal Goals." For more information about the conference please visit: <http://www.sfestuary.org/soe2011/index.html>

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